contractor wrote to me that I must inspect the salt before it is destroyed. So I myself went and I found that the salt was not equal to the approved sample.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know who inspected the salt at first?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The Inspector in charge of the depot.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know the percentage of inferior salt supplied?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Only a very small percentage. This year, out of 1,10,000 maunds of salt supplied, the quantity rejected was only 93 bags.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether the same firm was supplying the salt in 1107?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, it was not that firm.

Supply of Bombay Salt.

189. ❋**MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the date on which the tenders for the supply of Bombay salt for the year 1109 were first invited;

(*b*) who are the tenderers who had put in their tenders then;

(*c*) whether the Excise Commissioner cancelled those tenders;

(*d*) if so, the reasons for doing so;

(*e*) whether after this the Excise Commissioner invited tenders for two years; and

(*f*) whether, at any time before this, tenders for the supply of Bombay salt were invited for the period of two years at a time?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) As per notice dated the 24th June 1933, published in the Gazette dated the 27th June 1933.

(*b*) (1) Messrs Khan Bahadur H. M. D. H. Bhiwandiwala & Co., Bombay; and (2) Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi, Palton Road, Bombay.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Excise Commissioner did not cancel any of the tenders. The tenders received were not accepted as the rates quoted by the tenderers were very high as compared with the rates for the previous year.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) No.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know, Sir, whether the tender submitted by Messrs Khan Bahadur H. M. D. H. Bhiwandiwala & Co., Bombay, stipulated rate for a period of two years?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Though tenders were invited for one year, they quoted alternative rates for 2 years also.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, when the first tender was rejected or accepted, notices were given to the other contractors?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, not only to the other contractor but to all the other firms which had submitted tenders in previous years; and instead of two tenders which we received first, as many as five tenders were received at the second notice.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether there was any complaint that they did not receive such tender notices?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No such complaint was received.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the deposit of the contractor was not returned?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): As far as I know, it was returned.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the deposit by Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi was returned?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It was returned as required by his agent.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, when the tender was found unsuccessful, Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi demanded his deposit?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Am I to take it that, when the first tender was not accepted, Government did not sanction the refund of Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi's deposit?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): When I got the first tender, I wrote to Government requesting permission for inviting another tender. During that time not only the deposit but the deposits of others were also not given.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether, when the first tender was not accepted, the Government were not in a position to issue instructions that all the deposits including that of Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi should be returned?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It was only after the second tender that orders were passed by the Government.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Both the deposits?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Only one.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi had any deposit?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know why his deposit was not returned to him?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : It can be done only if he had asked for the return.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether there was any complaint that the deposit of Messrs. Khan Bahadur H. M. D. H. Bhiwandiwala & Co.,' was given away while that of Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi was retained ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : No such complaint, as far as I am aware, was received. The deposit would have been given, if only he had asked for it.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know from the member whether there was any reason for deviating from the practice of calling for tenders for one year to two years ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Sir, I have already said that I wrote to Government explaining the position and requesting permission to invite tenders for two years,

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : I want the special reason with regard to this matter.

PRESIDENT : The Commissioner says that he wrote for the sanction of Government and got it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know why he thought of asking permission of Government for extending the period to two years ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Because the rate quoted for one year was too high.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : Sir, I cannot understand the member.

PRESIDENT : On account of unfavourable rates; that is the answer.

The Butler of the Trivandrum Travellers' Bungalow.

190. ✻ **MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there have been complaints to the effect that the butler of the Travellers' Bungalow, Trivandrum, is suffering from some contagious disease ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

Bridge at the Alwaye ferry.

191. ✻ **MR. K. MAHOMED** (*Alwaye*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there were representations from 1085 onwards for the construction of a bridge at the Alwaye ferry ;

(*b*) whether an estimate for it has been sanctioned ; and

(*c*) if not, when this work will be undertaken ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) As soon as the necessary estimate is sanctioned and funds are allotted.

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